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Community Health Workers Review Board

July 28, 2023

1:00 PM-3:30PM

Minutes

Locations

Meeting can be viewed [here](#).

Minutes

1. Call to Order

CHW members present: Kenneth Campbell, Monica Cuevas, Angela Ellison, Ofelia Figueroa, Wandy Hernandez-Gordon, Shami Goyal, Noelle Moore (joined at 1:54 p.m.), Laura Phelan, Leticia Boughton Price, David Sanders, Esther Sciammarella, Tracey Smith, Emma Villarreal, Kevin Wood

CHW members not present: Karen Ayala, Sol Flores, LaToya Greenwood, Rep. Maura Hirschauer, Ryan Lee

IDPH staff present: Erin Davis, Omayra Giachello, Allison Nickrent, Lubia Nunez-Montelongo, Emily Spangler, Mona VanKanegan, Lori Weiselberg, Greg Willis, Nikki Woolverton

Guests: Rep. Jenn Ladisch Douglass, Adam Scheffler

2. Approve Meeting Minutes (June 30, 2023)

Moved by Kevin Wood, seconded by Emma Villarreal

Angela Ellison abstained

3. Approve Bylaws

There was not a quorum to approve the bylaws and will hold a vote at the next meeting.

4. Administrative Rule Review (Selected Sections) - Subpart C

Allison Nickrent did an overview on how community health workers can become certified.

Questions included:

Kevin Wood: How does a health worker know how they can become certified?

Allison Nickrent: This is not in administrative rule, but program staff will work on awareness campaigns with advice from the CHW board.

Emma Villarreal: What experience (i.e., working in community organizations, taking courses about an issue, etc.) will be taken into account when a CHW is being certified?

Allison Nickrent: This is open to discussion amongst the board.

Tracey Smith: In Section 951.200, part D, there is focus on job experience, but not on education or training received.

Lori Weiselberg: We looked at other states and what they are doing, and we felt this was appropriate.

Esther Sciammarella: It should be asked what kind of experience and training CHW has.

Angela Ellison: There needs to be clarification around Section 951.209, Part B about grandparenting when being certified.

Allison Nickrent and Lori Weiselberg: The language will be edited.

Lori Weiselberg: To be grand parented in, do we want some level of training within the past 10 years?

Tracey Smith: The Board should find ways that can contribute to grandparenting.

David Sanders: There should be a competency test, too.

Lori Weiselberg: There is an exam outlined in the document for those grandparented in and those taking the certified training program.

Angela Ellison: What are the exceptions to the certified program training? Does someone certify their exceptions?

David Sanders: Would a prior learning assessment suffice?

Esther Sciammarella: It would be ideal for CHW to not have to be experts on everything. This would expand the number of CHWs.

Lori Weiselberg: There will be a subsequent meeting to focus on core competencies.

Many members inquired: Will disabled people and/or people who do not excel in traditional test taking have accommodations? Will trainings be available in other languages? Can we look at who can be a CHW from an equity perspective?

Lori Weiselberg and Allison Nickrent: Yes, and we will consider recommendations from the Board for appropriate accommodations.

Wandy Hernandez-Gordon said this conversation will be resumed at the next meeting.

5. Annual Board Report Review

Allison Nickrent asked that the Board provides feedback on the report before the deadline, September 27th, 2023.

6. CHW Program Discussion

There was discussion around program development. The highlights include securing GRF (general revenue funds) for the last FY and FY24, a work plan, administrative rules, drafted bylaws, and a communication and promotion plan. Lori Weiselberg also provided the next steps for the next year and what is going on behind the scenes for future plans for the Board. She also asked the group to ponder on ideas for the coming year. Additionally, she shared that two IGA (intergovernmental agreements) proposals with SIU and UIC were submitted.

Next, the draft CHW Certification Program FAQs were reviewed. Suggestions were made from members. Lori Weiselberg directed members to mark up edits and send an edited version to her.

8. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9. Meetings for the Remainder of 2023

Wednesday, 8/30, 2-4pm

Friday, 9/29, 2-4pm

Friday, 10/27, 2-4pm

Thursday, 11/30, 2-4pm

Friday, 12/15, 2-4pm

10. Adjournment

Wandy Hernandez-Gordon motioned to adjourn, Esther Sciammarella seconded.